

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 22 of page 2 as follows:

B1
Refer now to Figure 1 which illustrates a plan view of a guidewire 10 in combination with an intravascular device 100. In this particular example, the intravascular device 100 comprises a balloon catheter, but those skilled in the art will recognize that guidewires may be used alone or in combination with a wide variety of intravascular devices for coronary, peripheral and cerebral use, including balloon catheters, guide catheters, diagnostic catheters, micro-catheters, etc. For purposes of illustration only, intravascular device 100 is shown to be a balloon catheter 100 having an elongate shaft ~~[[100]]~~ 102, a proximally disposed manifold 104, and a distally disposed inflatable balloon 106, all of which are conventional in the art. Guidewire 10 may extend through the entire length of the balloon catheter 100, and includes a proximal end 12 and a distal tip portion 14. The guidewire 10 may have a size (length and diameter) to navigate coronary, peripheral and/or cerebral vasculature, depending on the particular clinical application, and the distal tip portion 14 may be shaped to facilitate steering in such vascular anatomy.